

## Humanities Divisional Board

Approved by officers on behalf of Education Committee on 14 September 2020

### Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation

Honour School of Fine Art

**Brief note about nature of change:** Change of examination from 3-hr paper to three essays. Removal of exhibition of work as an assessed element, replaced by submission of a digital portfolio.

### Location of change

In *Examination Regulations 2019-20*

<https://examregs.admin.ox.ac.uk/Regulation?code=hsoffineart&srchYear=2019&srchTerm=1&year=2018&term=1>

### Effective date

**For students starting from 2018-19**

**For first examination from 2020-21**

### Detail of change

#### A

~~1.1~~1. No person who is not a member of the University may be admitted to the Final Examination in Fine Art.

~~1.2~~~~2~~~~1~~1. No member of the University shall be admitted to the Final Examination in Fine Art unless they have either passed or been exempted from the Preliminary Examination in Fine Art.

~~1.3~~3.

~~1.4~~(a) No one shall be admitted as a candidate for the examination unless by the end of the term in which the examination is held they shall have kept statutable residence for nine terms, except that a candidate who is a Senior Student may be admitted as a candidate if by the end of the term in which the examination is held they shall have kept statutable residence for six terms.

~~1.5~~(b) Time spent outside Oxford as part of an academic programme approved by Council shall count towards residence for the purposes of this clause.

~~1.6~~(c) The Proctors shall have power to excuse from one term of statutable residence any member of the University who shall have been duly certified by them to have been prevented by illness or other reasonable cause from keeping such residence for one or more terms, subject to the conditions set out in the appropriate regulation. Application shall be made through the college or other society or approved institution to which the member belongs. The

~~student, or his or her society, may within fourteen days of the date of the Proctors' decision appeal in writing to the Chair of the Education Committee (who may nominate another member of the committee, other than one of the Proctors, to adjudicate the appeal).~~

~~1-7(e) The Proctors shall have power to dispense, subject to such conditions as it may from time to time determine, from up to three terms of statutable residence any member of the University who has not completed such residence for any reason which the Proctors shall judge to be sufficient. Application shall be made through the college or other society or approved institution to which the member belongs. The student, or his or her society, may within fourteen days of the date of the Proctors' decision appeal in writing to the Chair of the Education Committee (who may nominate another member of the committee, other than one of the Proctors, to adjudicate the appeal).~~

~~1-8(e) The candidate's college or other society or approved institution shall be required to certify on the entry form, by the time determined for entry, whether or not the candidate will have met the requirement for statutable residence by the end of the term in which the examination is held, and to notify the University of any change in the candidate's status in this respect between entry and the date of the examination.~~

~~1-9(f) Nothing in this clause shall affect the conditions required for admission to degrees set out in the appropriate regulations.~~

~~1-10 4. No one shall be admitted as a candidate for the examination after the lapse of twelve terms from the term of their matriculation inclusively, except that a candidate who has been prevented by urgent cause from offering himself or herself for examination may offer himself or herself as a candidate at the next ensuing examination provided that he or she has satisfied the conditions of the relevant regulations.~~

~~1.11 5.-2. The examination shall be under the supervision of the Committee for the Ruskin School of Art, which shall make regulations for the examination.~~

## B

1.121. The examination shall include both practical and written work. Examiners may call any candidate to be examined by viva voce.

1.132. Every candidate will be required to

~~1-14(a) Produce a selection of work completed throughout the course preceding the examination in each of the categories scheduled below:~~

~~1-15(i) An exhibition of current work or work constructed especially for assessment.~~

~~1-16(ii) A portfolio of work made during the course preceding the examination in any medium or media agreed by the candidate and their tutor. This should include at least twelve original works; in the case of time-based work, candidates should make a submission of works, or excerpts of works, of no more than a total of twenty minutes' duration. Work which, in the judgement of the candidate's tutor, cannot be submitted for examination for practical reasons, may be represented by documentation.~~

(a) Submit a portfolio of work made during the course preceding the examination or created especially for assessment in any medium or media agreed by the candidate and their tutor. The portfolio must be presented in digital form, and may include both work in progress and completed artworks. The portfolio should include at least twelve original works; in the case of time-based work, candidates should make a submission of works, or excerpts of works, of no more than a total of twenty minutes' duration. Work which, in the judgement of the candidate's tutor, cannot be submitted for examination for practical reasons, may be represented by documentation.

1.17(b) Submit an essay of no more than 6,000 words (including footnotes), which shall normally be on some aspect of visual culture since 1900, in accordance with the provisions of clause 3 of these regulations.

1.18(c) Satisfy the examiners in a paper on the history and theory of visual culture since 1900. Submit three essays of no more than 2,500 words each (including footnotes) on aspects of the history and theory of visual culture since 1900 in accordance with the provisions of clause 3 of these regulations.

1.193.

1.20(a) The work required by the provisions of clause 2 (a) must be submitted via the approved online platform to the Chair of Examiners, Final Examination in Fine Art, Ruskin School of Art, 74 High Street, Oxford by noon on Tuesday in the eighth week of Trinity Full Term in which the examination is taken.

1.21(b) A candidate submitting an essay in accordance with the provisions of clause 2 (b) of these regulations must apply for the approval of the Head of School not later than Friday in the fourth week of the Michaelmas Full Term preceding the examination. Such application shall include the title of the proposed essay and a synopsis of not more than 100 words setting out the manner in which it is proposed to treat the subject. ~~One typed copy of the essay must be delivered to the Chair of Examiners, Final Examination in Fine Art, Examination Schools~~ The essay must be submitted electronically using the approved online submission system not later than noon on the Monday of the eighth week of the Hilary Full Term preceding the examination. Each essay must be accompanied by a certificate signed by the candidate that the essay has not been submitted for any previous examination, and that the essay is his or her own unaided work. Tutors may provide advice on the choice and scope of the subject, the sources available, and the method of presentation. They may also read and comment on a first draft of the essay. ~~This certificate must be submitted separately in a sealed envelope addressed to the Chair of Examiners.~~

c) The essays required by the provisions of clause 2 (c) must be submitted electronically using the approved online submission system by noon on Friday of noughth week of the Michaelmas Full Term preceding the examination. (Note: candidates taking the examination in the Honour School of History of Art must submit the required essays by noon on Friday of ninth week of the Michaelmas Full Term preceding the examination.) [For students starting after MT 2018: One essay must be submitted not later than noon on the Friday of the ninth week of the Michaelmas Full Term in the academic year preceding the examination, one essay must be submitted not later than noon on the Friday of the ninth week of the Hilary Full Term in the academic year preceding the examination, and one essay must be submitted not later than noon on the Friday of the ninth week of the Trinity Full Term in the academic year preceding the examination.]

### **Explanatory Notes**

1.14-1.16: Under current conditions the mounting and examining of a physical exhibition is not practical. The Ruskin therefore proposes to examine BFA students on a digital portfolio of documentation of artworks produced during the final two years of their studies. This is not intended as permanent change to exam regulations, but as an emergency measure to account for the difficulties of examining an exhibition under pandemic conditions. It is expected that the exhibition will be reinstated as part of the BFA Fine Art examination process when this becomes practical.

All other changes: The Ruskin proposes that instead of a 3-hr paper, students submit three essays based on their 2nd year coursework at the start of MT. This replicates the pattern of Prelims assessment and also reflects a strong push from the students themselves to change the form of the examination.

The students had already sent a petition in Hilary Term asking for a move away from the 3-hr exam paper, and now that students have lost an entire term of access to studios they are doubly insistent that they wish to devote Michaelmas to working in the newly reopened studios and not to revising for an exam, whether sit-down, open book, or take-away.

Replicating the structure of assessment at Prelims seems like the best way to do this, and this is what is being proposed, both for 2020-21 and for the future, with the difference that from 2021 the essays would be submitted during the year in which the paper is taught (as at Prelims) rather than at the start of the final year.